

November 2013



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## Topics for November

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## Grafton County FSA Updates

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### Grafton County FSA Office

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**District Director:**  
Keith Farrell  
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**County Committee:**

### FSA MAKES PAYMENTS

FSA has started issuing Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) annual rental payments to participants across the country. CRP payments will be followed by 2013 Direct and Counter-cyclical Payments and 2012 Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) program payments beginning Oct. 24. These payments were delayed by several weeks due to the lapse in Federal funding.

The 2008 Farm Bill, extended by the American Tax Payer Relief Act of 2012, provided authority to enroll land in DCP, ACRE and CRP through Sept. 30, 2013; however, no legislation has been enacted to reauthorize or extend this authority. Effective Oct. 1, 2013, FSA does not have legislative authority to approve or process applications for these programs.

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### Farm Reconstitutions

When changes in farm ownership or operation take place, a farm reconstitution is necessary. The reconstitution — or recon — is the process of combining or dividing farms or tracts of land based on the farming operation. The following are the different methods used when doing a farm

David Clement  
Jacqueline Lewis  
Shirley Tullar

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**Farm Loans:**

The Concord Center  
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Concord, NH 03301  
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**County Committee Meetings:**

The next COC meeting is  
January 23, 2014 at 11:00 am

recon. Remember, to be effective for the current year, recons must be requested by Aug. 1 for farms enrolled in the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program.

Estate Method — the division of bases, allotments and quotas for a parent farm among heirs in settling an estate;

Designation of Landowner Method — may be used when (1) part of a farm is sold or ownership is transferred; (2) an entire farm is sold to two or more persons; (3) farm ownership is transferred to two or more persons; (4) part of a tract is sold or ownership is transferred; (5) a tract is sold to two or more persons; or (6) tract ownership is transferred to two or more persons. In order to use this method the land sold must have been owned for at least three years, or a waiver granted, and the buyer and seller must sign a Memorandum of Understanding;

DCP Cropland Method — the division of bases in the same proportion that the DCP cropland for each resulting tract relates to the DCP cropland on the parent tract;

Default Method — the division of bases for a parent farm with each tract maintaining the bases attributed to the tract level when the reconstitution is initiated in the system.

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## Selling Land

If you plan on selling farmland, you should be aware of several consequences associated with FSA programs. For example, if you're planning to sell land that's enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program, the buyer must agree to continue the enrollment. If the buyer doesn't want to continue the CRP contract, you might have to refund all of the payments you've received to date.

Reviewing program implications with your local Farm Service Agency staff before completing a sale of farmland is always a prudent precaution.

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## Foreign Buyers Notification

Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA) requires all foreign owners of U.S. agricultural land to report their holdings to the Secretary of Agriculture. Foreign persons who have purchased or sold agricultural land in the county are required to report the transaction to FSA within 90 days of the closing. Failure to submit the AFIDA form could result in civil penalties of up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the property. County government offices, realtors, attorneys and others involved in real estate transactions are reminded to notify foreign investors of these reporting requirements..

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## 2014 Acreage Reporting

Filing an accurate acreage report at your local FSA office can prevent the loss of benefits for a variety of programs. Annual acreage reports are required for most FSA programs. Annual crop report deadlines vary based on crop, permanent vs. annual crop type, NAP or non-NAP crop and fall or winter seeding.

NH has set the following dates for acreage reporting deadlines:

Honey	January 2
Apples, Peaches	January 15
Maple Sap	February 15

Ornamental Nursery	May 31
Corn	July 15
Fresh Market Sweet Corn	July 15
Spring Forage Seeding	July 15
All Other Crops	July 15
Perennial Forage	November 15
Fall Forage Seeding	November 15
Fall-Seeded Small Grains	November 15.

If you have not filed your acreage report for 2014 perennial forage there will not be a late filed fee assessed. Please notify the Grafton County FSA office **as soon as possible** to file your acreage report for 2014 perennial forage if you have not done so yet!

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## Dates to Remember

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November 28, 2013 – Thanksgiving Holiday (Office Closed)  
December 1, 2013 - NAP Sign Up Deadline for Honey and Maple Sap  
December 25, 2013 – Christmas Holiday (Office Closed)

### Crop Acreage Reporting Deadlines

January 2, 2014    2014 Honey  
January 15, 2014    2014 Apples, Peaches, Nectarines

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